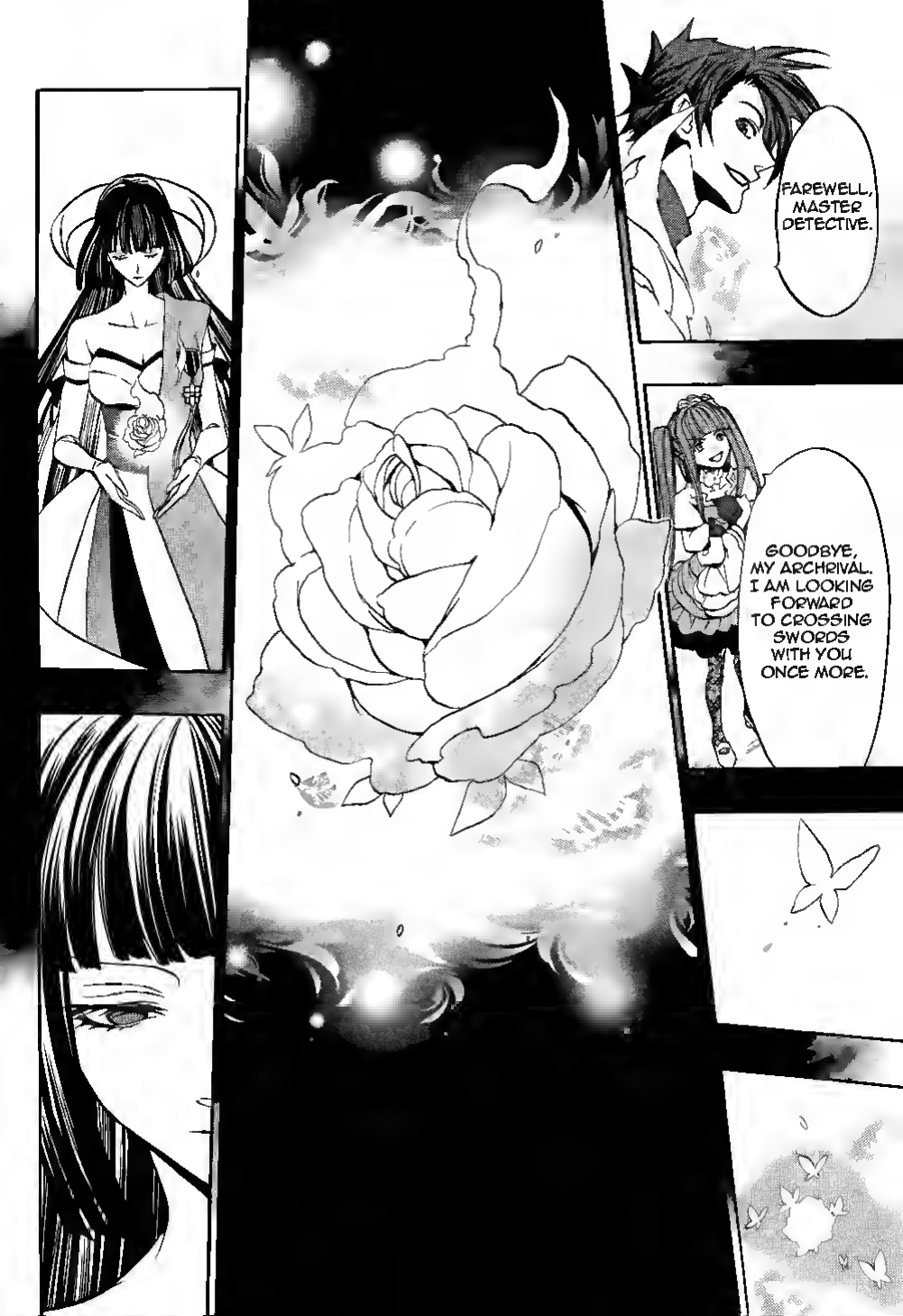
WITH THIS...
ALL OF MY GAMES HAVE COME TO AN END.
EVA OBA-SAN
YOU KEEP CALLING ME EVA OBA-SAN TILL THE VERY END?!
THE RULE IS THAT UNLESS THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE, IT CANNOT BE CLOSED.
YES.
DO I REMEMBER CORRECTLY THAT THERE WAS A MANNER TO CLOSING IT?
WELL, THEN WE HAVE TO CLOSE THE DOOR NOW

CHAPTER 35: BEYOND THE DDDR LIES ~A TRICK~, AND THEN...

YOU TWO WORKED ADMIRABLY.
THEN LET'S GET TO IT AND STORE YOUR GAMEBOARD AWAY.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ANGE, EVA OBA -SAN.

SEE YOU, ERIKA.
SOME-TIME, SOME-WHERE.
I WAS THE WITCH WHO ENDURED THE TRUTH, BUT TURNED MY BACK ON IT.
BUT SHE WENT ON BELIEVING INTO HER OWN TRUTH, EVEN AFTER KNOWING THE TRUTH.
BOTH ME AND ANGE... WE WERE BOTH WITCHES OF TRUTH...
MAYBE THE TRUTH FITS HER A LOT BETTER AFTER ALL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WITCH I AM SUPPOSED TO BE ANYMORE...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU AREN'T A WITCH.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU ARE ...
THE DETEC-TIVE...
RIGHT?!
IF EVER IN ANY PLACE
AN INCIDENT HAPPENS AGAIN, A DETECTIVE IS NEEDED
RIGHT.
LET US PROMISE THAT, IF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY IS EVER INVOLVED INTO AN INCIDENT AGAIN, I WILL APPEAR!
GOOD
I REALLY FORGOT THAT.


FAREWELL, MASTER DETECTIVE.
GOODBYE, MY ARCHRIVAL. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO CROSSING SWORDS WITH YOU ONCE MORE.

IT IS ALL ...
OVER NOW.
YES, GREAT LADY AURORA!
PLEASE, TAKE CARE OF MY LITTLE KITTEN.
I WILL DEPART AS WELL.
I WILL HAVE TO CLEAN UP IN THAT WORLD OVER THERE AS WELL.

OJOU-
IF YOU KEEP STANDING OUT HERE LIKE THAT YOU'LL END UP CATCHING A COLD
THIS IS ...
AMA-KUSA...

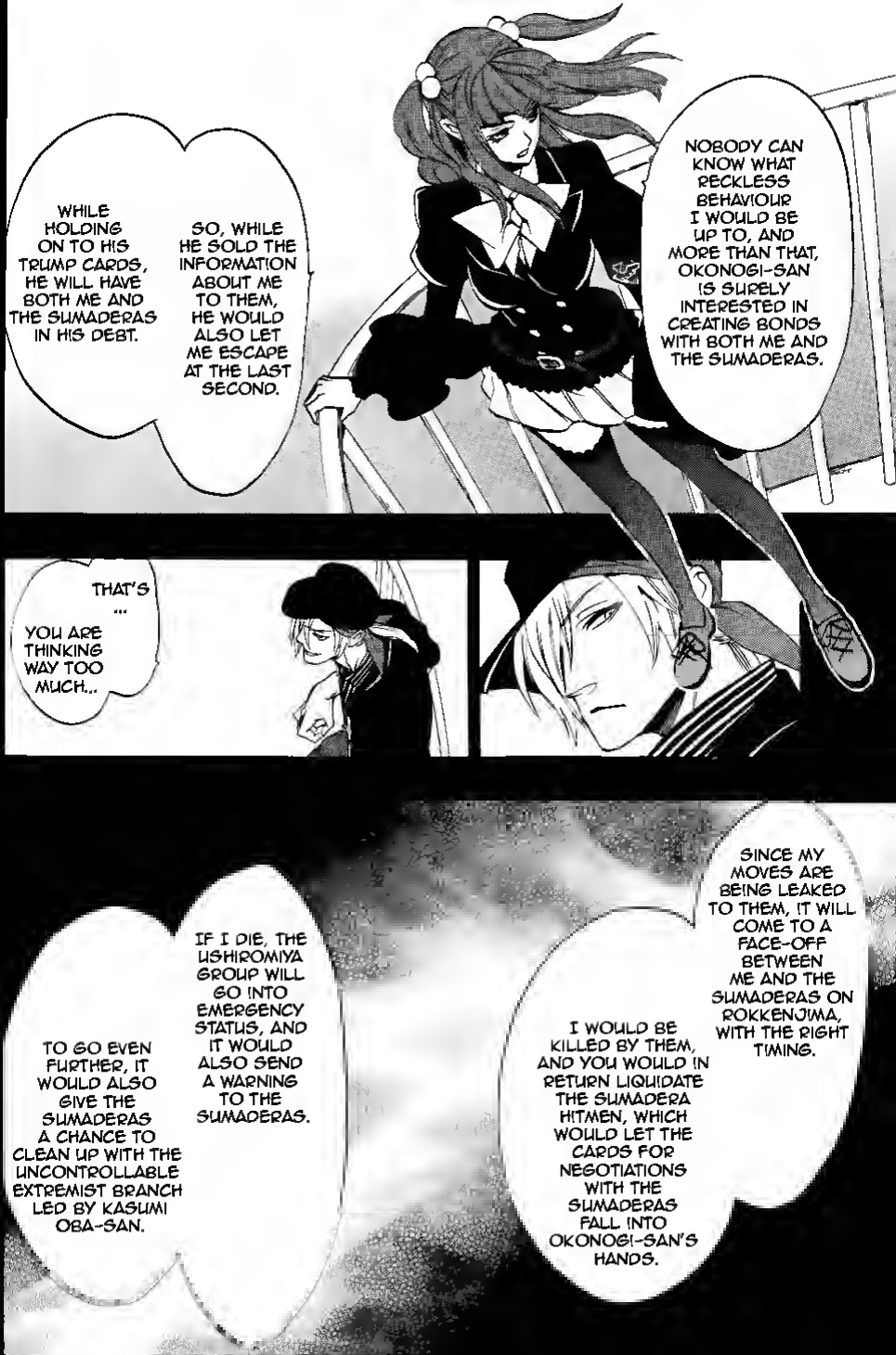
SO, I CAME BACK HERE ...
I SEE.
WOW, THERE'S LIKE NOTHING LEFT AT ALL...
YOU CAN SEE IT NOW. OVER THERE IS WHERE ONCE THE LANDING DOCK FOR THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY WAS.
THAT WAS QUITE A LONG DAYDREAM I HAD ...
YOUR PRIZE FROM THE HALLOWEEN PARTY!
WHAT'S THAT?

PAST ATTACH-MENTS!
I HAVE CASTED OFF THE OLD SHELL OF ME.
CAP-TAIN?
I AM SORRY, BUT COULD I HAVE YOU LEAVE US ALONE FOR A BIT?
HUM...I DON'T MIND.
WHAT IS IT, OUJO?
WHAT IS THAT FROWN ALL ABOUT?
I HAVE ...
DECIDED TO STEP INTO A NEW LIFE FROM THIS MOMENT ONWARDS.

HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY TAKEN THAT STEP?
.....
SEEMS A WASTE FOR SUCH A HUGE AMOUNT OF CASH.
BUT I DON'T NEED IT, SO ISN'T THAT ALRIGHT?
I'D GET THIS OVER WITH CLEANLY BY JUST SELLING OFF THE WHOLE DAMN BUSINESS CONNECTED TO THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY AND GIVING THE MONEY AWAY TO A DONATION.
THAT MIGHT BE SO, BUT WHAT YOU ARE SELLING DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU ALONE, OUJO
FOR EXAMPLE ...
WITH THAT I CAN LEAVE THE SHELL CALLED USHIROMIYA ANGE COMPLETELY BEHIND..
...THE USHIROMIYA GROUP STOCK COMPANY ...
FOR EXAMPLE?

MY BOSS WOULDN'T JUST TAKE THAT SITTING DOWN.
THAT'S RIGHT IT MIGHT JUST BE SCRAPS OF PAPER TO YOU ...
BUT THE FATE OF A LARGE COMPANY IS NOT SOMETHING YOU SHOULD CARELESSLY SHAKE UP.
YES.
BOTH OKONOGI -SAN AND HIS STAFF AS WELL AS THE SUMADERAS SEE IT THAT WAY.
THERE IS A HUGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ARE IN TROUBLE BY ME MOVING AROUND FREELY.
WHAT MIGHT BE THE QUICKEST WAY TO KEEP ME FROM DOING AS I PLEASE?
LET'S SEE ...
MAYBE GET YOU REALLY DRUNK AND ...

ANYBODY COULD PUT TOGETHER THAT THE FINAL GOAL OF MY JOURNEY WOULD BE ROKKENJIMA.
AND ROKKENJIMA IS NOW A COMPLETELY DESERTED ISLAND.
NOBODY COMES HERE, AND NOTHING WOULD BE SEEN OR HEARD.
TODAY THERE ARE PERFECT LOCKED ROOM CONDITIONS!
...WELL, THAT MAY BE TRUE.
MEMBERS OF THE SUMADERA FAMILY ARE AFTER ME, AND THEY ARRIVED AT OKONOGI-SAN'S OFFICE WITH PERFECT TIMING.
SOMEBODY SOLD THEM THE INFORMATION THAT I WAS THERE.
YOU'RE SAYING THE BOSS DID IT?
THEN WHY WOULD HE GIVE YOU A BODY-GUARD?


NOBODY CAN KNOW WHAT RECKLESS BEHAVIOUR I WOULD BE UP TO, AND MORE THAN THAT, OKONOGI-SAN IS SURELY INTERESTED IN CREATING BONDS WITH BOTH ME AND THE SUMADERAS.
SO, WHILE HE SOLD THE INFORMATION ABOUT ME TO THEM, HE WOULD ALSO LET ME ESCAPE AT THE LAST SECOND.
WHILE HOLDING ON TO HIS TRUMP CARDS, HE WILL HAVE BOTH ME AND THE SUMADERAS IN HIS DEBT.
THAT'S ...
YOU ARE THINKING WAY TOO MUCH...
SINCE MY MOVES ARE BEING LEAKED TO THEM, IT WILL COME TO A FACE-OFF BETWEEN ME AND THE SUMADERAS ON ROKKENJIMA, WITH THE RIGHT TIMING.
I WOULD BE KILLED BY THEM, AND YOU WOULD IN RETURN LIQUIDATE THE SUMADERA HITMEN, WHICH WOULD LET THE CARDS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SUMADERAS FALL INTO OKONOGI-SAN'S HANDS.
IF I DIE, THE USHIROMIYA GROUP WILL GO INTO EMERGENCY STATUS, AND IT WOULD ALSO SEND A WARNING TO THE SUMADERAS.
TO GO EVEN FURTHER, IT WOULD ALSO GIVE THE SUMADERAS A CHANCE TO CLEAN UP WITH THE UNCONTROLLABLE EXTREMIST BRANCH LED BY KASUMI OBA-SAN.

QUITE A SCENARIO YOU COOKED UP THERE.
BOTH SIDES COULD DECLARE IT A DRAW DUE TO INJURY.
HOW WELL. HOW WELL.
THAT GOLF BAG THAT YOU'VE BROUGHT WITH YOU...
I CHECKED WHAT YOU GOT IN THERE.
A-MAZ-ING.
YOU COULD START A WAR WITH ALL THOSE GUNS.

THE NEWEST MODEL OF A RIFLE, A BRAND-NEW GERMAN SUB-MACHINEGUN ...
ARE ALL THOSE GUNS NECESSARY FOR A BODYGUARD WHO SHOULD BE LIGHTLY EQUIPPED TO BE BY MY SIDE ALL THE TIME?
YOU JUST NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN...
WHEN I WILL ARRIVE ON ROKKENJIMA ...
YOU WILL TELL ME TO TAKE MY TIME AND VISIT MY FAMILY'S RESTING PLACE ALONE, STAYING BEHIND.
THIS WILL MAKE ME THE BAIT TO LURE OUT THE SUMADERAS WHO ARE ALREADY LYING IN WAITING ON THE ISLAND.
THEN YOU WILL TAKE CARE OF THE WHOLE BUNCH WITH THAT BIG-ASS GUN OF YOURS

ONE MORE GUN IN THE GOLF BAG...
A HAND-GUN.
ARE YOU DONE YET? I'LL GO WITH YOU THEN.
THERE WAS ONE MORE GUN.
BOTH THE RIFLE AND THE SUB-MACHINEGUN ARE THE NEWEST MODELS OF THEIR TYPE. BUT THAT HANDGUN WAS JUST SO OLD AND USED...
YOU ALREADY CARRY A HANDGUN ON YOUR BODY, RIGHT?
SO WHY WOULD YOU NEED TO GO THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF PREPARING ANOTHER ONE?
AND ALSO ...

SUCH A DISPROPOR-TIONALLY OLD GUN ...
DROP THAT. IT STOPPED BEING FUNNY!
THERE IS A THEORY TO EXPLAIN THIS.

AND THAT IS ...
THIS GUN IS A TOKAREV.
IT'S A GUN USED BY THE MILITARY IN THE SOVIET UNION, AND IS A MODEL THAT IS GOING AROUND LIKE CRAZY IN THE JAPANESE UNDERGROUND.
THIS GUN BEING THE SAME MODEL AS THE ONE THAT SUMADERA KASUMI AND HER MEN HAVE PREPARED.
IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT THE SUMADERAS WOULD HAVE CHOSEN THIS AS A WEAPON.
SO IT IS QUITE GOOD FOR THE SUMADERA FAMILY IF SUMADERA KASUMI DIES.
THE SUMADERAS MUST HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED FOR AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. SO YOU WOULD HAVE KNOWN IN ADVANCE THAT THEY WOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH TOKAREVS.
BUT WHAT DO YOU GAIN FROM HAVING A GUN THAT IS THE SAME MODEL THE SUMADERAS USE?
IT'S CLEAR AS DAY!

YOUR PLAN IS...
TO LURE SUMADERA KASUMI TO AN ABAN-DONED ISLAND WITH ME AS BAIT ...
AND STAGE IT AS IF BOTH PARTIES WERE WIPED OUT IN A SHOOT -OUT

WITH THAT, BOTH OKONOGI -SAN AND THE SUMADERA FAMILY WOULD BENEFIT.

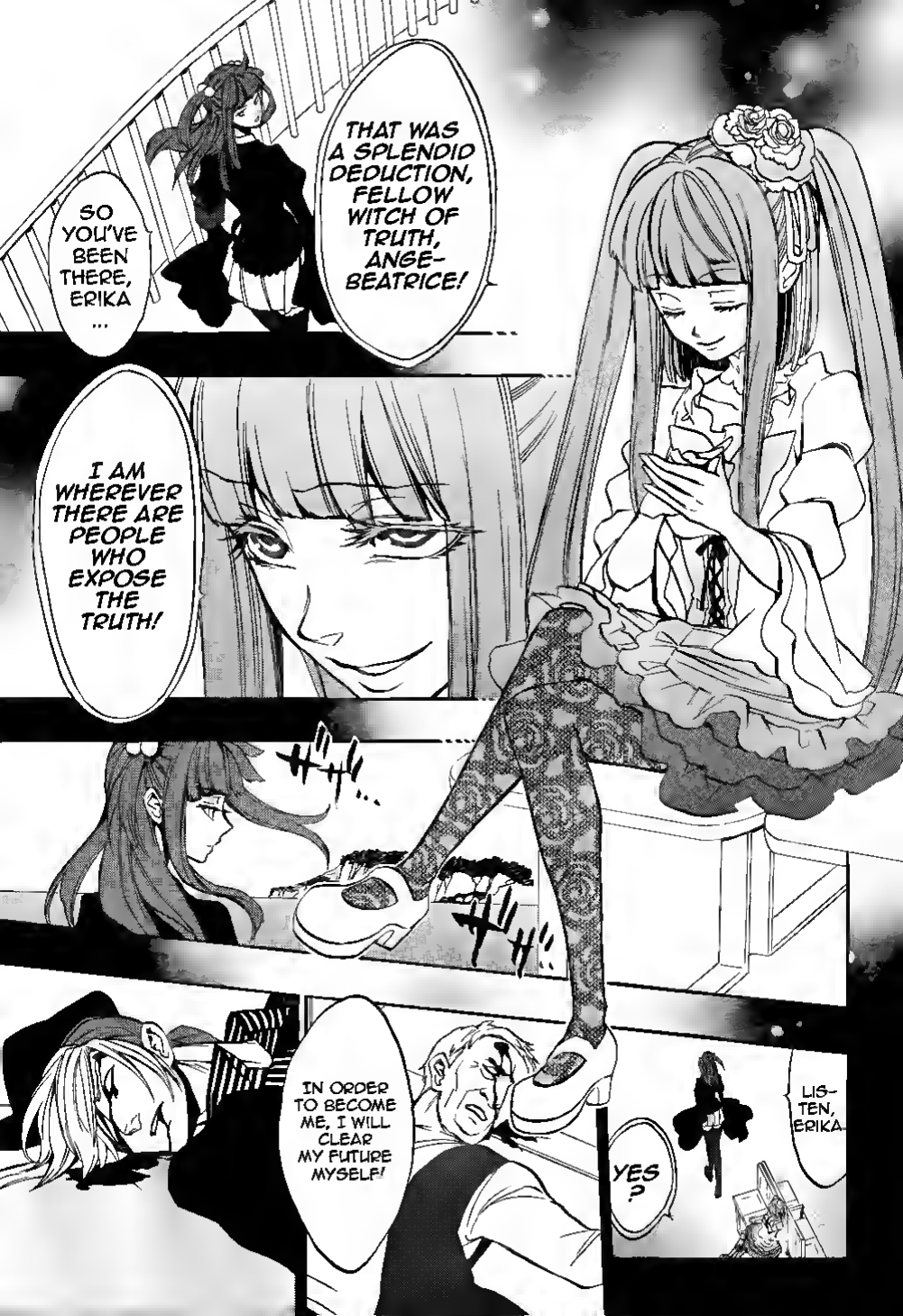
WITH JUST THIS HANDGUN BEING HERE ...
THIS LEVEL OF REASONING IS POSSIBLE FOR USHIROMIYA ANGE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, EVERYONE?

.....
YOU DIDN'T THINK TO TURN THE SAFETY OFF.
BUT I KNOW ...
THAT A TOKAREV DOESN'T HAVE A SAFETY MECHANISM!

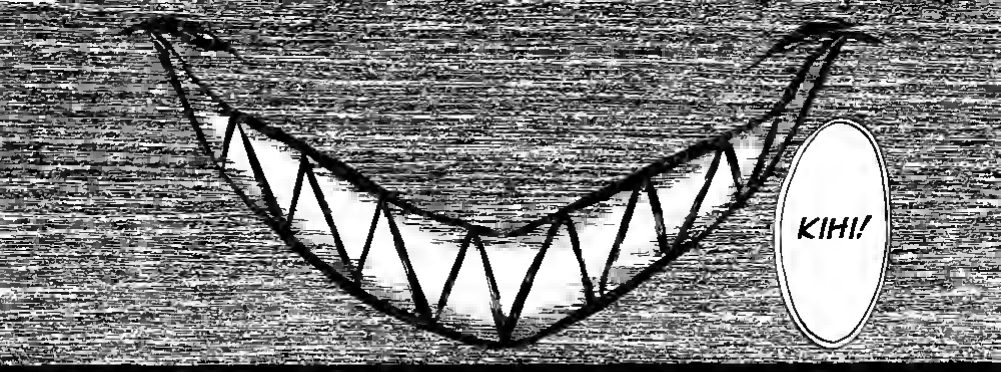
EVEN IF I AM NOT A DOCTOR ...
I KNOW THE BEST METHOD TO MAKE SURE THAT SOMEBODY IS ABSO-LUTELY DEAD

YO ...
YOU ...
YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU NEEDED SOME TIME BECAUSE OF SOMETHING ON THE SHIP
BUT IF YOU HAVE BEEN BRIBED BY THEM ... I CAN ASSUME THAT YOU DID THIS TO BUY THE SUMADERAS TIME TO ARRIVE AT THE ISLAND
I KNOW NOTHING! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT...
WITHIN THE CATBOX CALLED YOU EXIST BOTH THE ONE WHO WAS BRIBED AND BETRAYED ME AND THE ONE WHO DIDN'T BETRAY ME!
I REALLY OWE YOU A LOT OF GRATITUDE!
IS THERE A WAY TO KILL JUST THE SIDE OF YOU THAT BETRAYED ME?
NO ...!!
DON'T SHOOT... !!

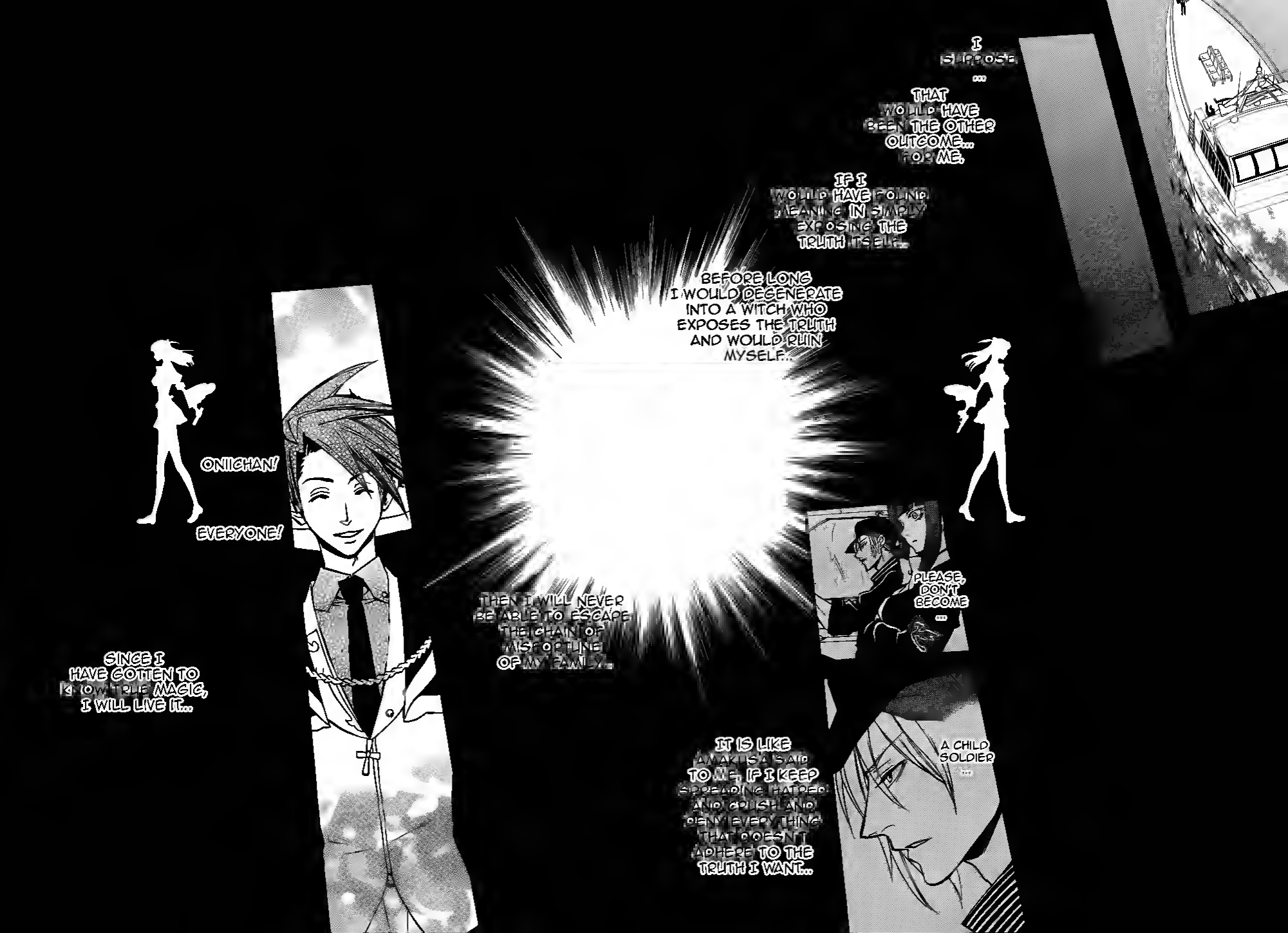
I'M BETTER OFF SHOOTING A CATBOX LIKE YOU.


SO YOU'VE BEEN THERE, ERIKA ...
THAT WAS A SPLENDID DEDUCTION, FELLOW WITCH OF TRUTH, ANGE-BEATRICE!
I AM WHEREVER THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO EXPOSE THE TRUTH!
IN ORDER TO BECOME ME, I WILL CLEAR MY FUTURE MYSELF!
LIS-TEN, ERIKA
YES ?

A WONDER-FUL PLAN!
I WONDER IF THERE IS A TRUTH FOR ME TO GRASP AT THE END.
SO THE TRUTH THAT YOU ARE DEMANDING NOW DOESN'T MATTER?
THAT BEFUDDLED LOOK ON AMAKUSA'S FACE WHEN I SAW THROUGH HIS PLAN ...
THAT WASN'T BAD AT ALL!
....EXACTLY! THE TRUTH HAS NO VALUE AT ALL!
AND ...



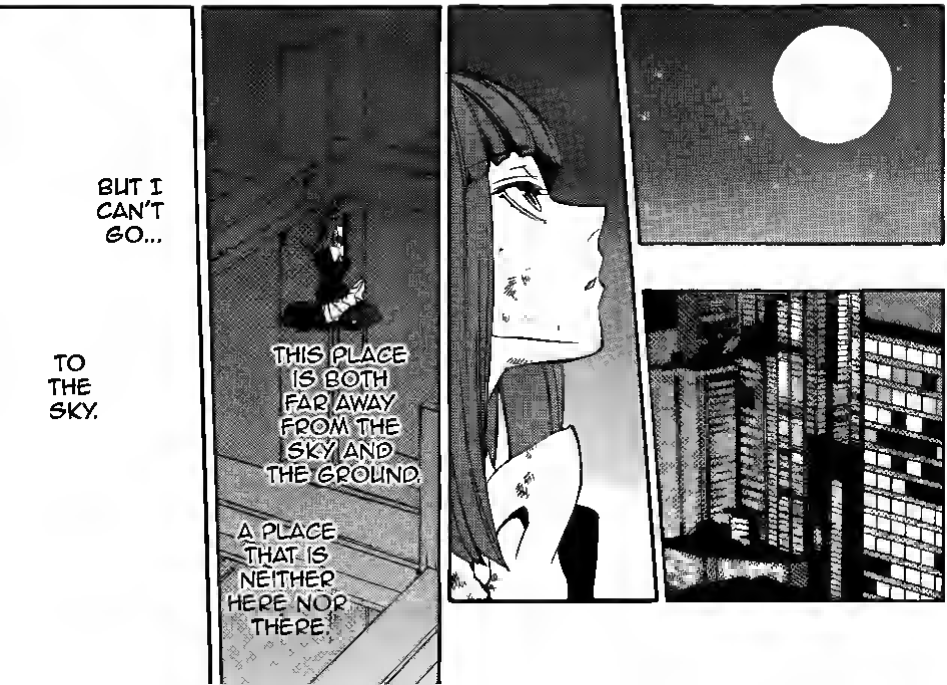
GOOD!!


I SUPPOSE...
THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE OTHER OUTCOME... FOR ME.
IF I WOULD HAVE FOUND MEANING IN SIMPLY EXPOSING THE TRUTH ITSELF...
BEFORE LONG I WOULD DEGENERATE INTO A WITCH WHO EXPOSES THE TRUTH AND WOULD RUIN MYSELF...
ONIICHAN!
EVERYONE!
THEN I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THE CHAIN OF MISFORTUNE OF MY FAMILY...
PLEASE, DON'T BECOME...
SINCE I HAVE GOTTEN TO KNOW THE MAGIC, I WILL LIVE IT...
IT IS LIKE AMAKUSA SAID TO ME, IF I KEEP SPREADING HATRED AND CRUSH AND DENY EVERYTHING THAT DOESN'T ADHERE TO THE TRUTH I WANT...
A CHILD SOLDIER...

MY FU-TURE!

AND THREW MYSELF OFF THERE...
THE SAFETY NET...
FELL INTO DESPAIR...
I...READ THE BOOK OF THE ONE TRUTH
MY BEATEN AND BROKEN HEART WAS SAVED BY ALL OF THEM...
I STILL HAVE LUCK LIKE A WITCH OF MIRACLES.
GO USHIRO-MIYA!
OF COURSE, I'M NOT FINE AT ALL.
...OUU-UCH...!

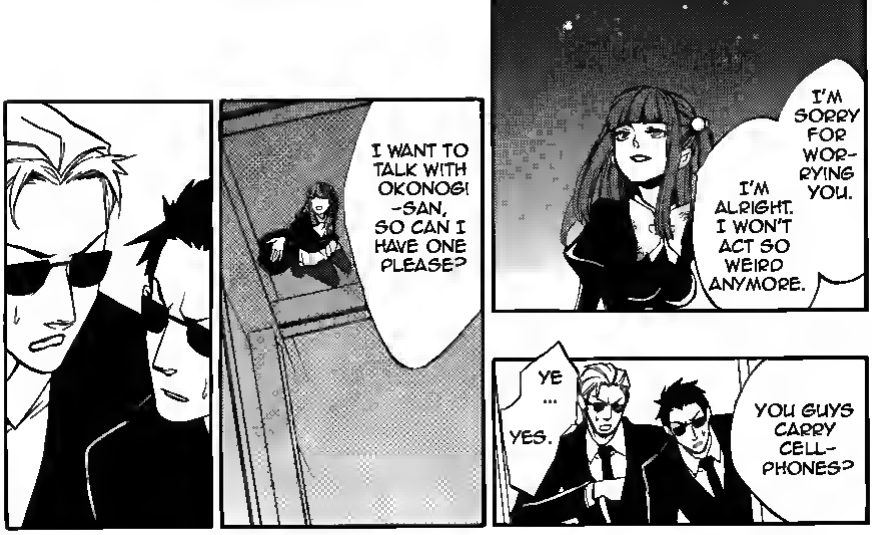
I AM ALIVE.


BUT I CAN'T GO...
TO THE SKY.
THIS PLACE IS BOTH FAR AWAY FROM THE SKY AND THE GROUND.
A PLACE THAT IS NEITHER HERE NOR THERE.

FROM NOW ON I WILL WALK THE GROUND!
I HAVE TO RETURN TO MY OWN WORLD.

I WILL HOLD THE TRUTH OF THEIR HEARTS CLOSE!
I WILL NEVER AGAIN LOSE SIGHT OF WHAT IS PRECIOUS!

A... ANGE -SAN!
YOU ARE AL- RIGHT!
PLEASE, DON'T MOVE!
WE'RE CALLING FOR RESCUE...


I'M SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU.
I'M ALRIGHT. I WON'T ACT SO WEIRD ANYMORE.
I WANT TO TALK WITH OKONOGI -SAN, SO CAN I HAVE ONE PLEASE?
YE ...
YES.
YOU GUYS CARRY CELL-PHONES?

HELLO, OKONOGI -SAN?
YES. IT'S SUDDEN, I'M SORRY.
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU.

WHAT?
NO, SOMETHING QUITE WONDERFUL. A SLIGHTLY EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFT.
I WILL GIVE YOU THE WHOLE USHIROMIYA GROUP.
BUT IN RETURN I HAVE SOME FAVOURS TO ASK OF YOU.

HM?
... HEHE!
USHIRO-MIYA ANGE DEFINITELY DIES IN 1998!
YES, I TOLD YOU THAT I WOULD SELL OFF THE WHOLE STOCK COMPANY I INHERITED FROM EVA OBA-SAN AND THEN GIVE EVERYTHING TO CHARITY, I KNOW.
I CHANGED MY MIND ON THAT.
LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS MORE WHEN WE MEET.
THAT WOULD PUT THE USHIROMIYA GROUP IN DANGER, WOULDN'T IT?
ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE COMPANY ...
SO, I THOUGHT THAT THE BEST THING TO DO WOULD BE TO LEAVE EVERYTHING TO YOU.
AND MINE AS WELL.
YES, "USHIROMIYA ANGE" WHO IS STUCK IN THE PAST NEEDS TO DIE.
USHIRO-MIYA ANGE ...
FELL OFF THIS ROOF AND DIED JUST NOW

ALL IN ORDER FOR THE NEW "ME" TO BETTER HER LIFE FROM NOW ON.
THE ME RIGHT HERE IS THE WITCH ANGE...
AND I WILL LIVE AS A WHITE WITCH.

THA ...
THAT IS MUCH TOO CRUEL!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS AFTER STRINGING US ALONG ALL THIS WAY!!
HACHIJO -SENSE!! WE CAME AND GATHERED FROM NEAR AND FAR JUST TO GET A GLIMPSE OF IT!
YOU CAN'T DENY US THAT NOW!!
I REPEAT MYSELF!
I CHANGED MY MIND. I WILL NOT MAKE THE DIARY OF USHIROMIYA EVA PUBLIC.

FRAUD! YOU ARE A FRAUD...!!
IS THAT THING EVEN REALLY EVA'S DIARY?!
YOU COOKED THIS ALL UP YOURSELF, DIDN'T YOU?!
STOP MESSING AROUND AND MAKE THE CONTENT PUBLIC!!
BEING NEITHER CONNECTED TO THE INCIDENT NOR A DIRECTLY BEREAVED, NEITHER YOU NOR I HAVE ANY GIVEN RIGHT TO EXPOSE THE CONTENT OF THIS DIARY OUT OF MERE FASCINATION.
MISERABLE CHILDREN OF MEN!
BUT STILL THIS HAS BEEN A VERY PLEASANT FESTIVITY.
I GOT TO SEE THE AMUSING FACES OF THE CHILDREN OF MEN WHO DISTURB THE REST OF THE DEAD AND SPEW RUMOURS AS THEY LIKE.
LET US GO, BERN. I THINK WE HAD ENOUGH ENTERTAIN-MENT FOR TONIGHT.

BUT IT ALSO GAVE VOICE TO THE OPINION THAT THE ROKKENJIMA MYSTERY ITSELF IS DESECRATING THE VICTIMS AND AN IMPROPER THING TO DO

THE WEEKLY MAGAZINES CREATED AN UPROAR CALLING THE EVENT HELD BY HACHIJO TOHYA A SWINDLE AND FRAUDULENT

IT SLOWLY LEAD TO AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE PEOPLE SHIED AWAY FROM ACTUALLY ADMITTING OPENLY TO BE INTERESTED IN THE ROKKENJIMA MYSTERY.

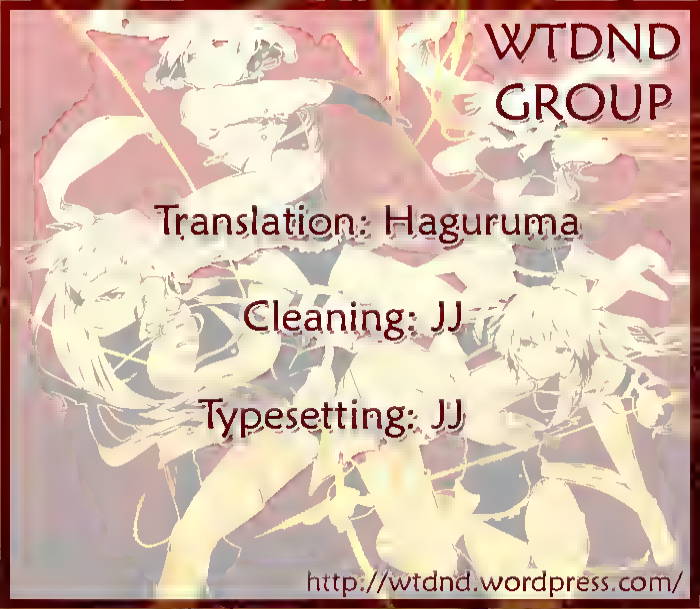
HAVING LOST ANY CLAIM ON WHETHER IT WAS EVEN AUTHENTIC OR NOT ...

USHIROMIYA EVA'S DIARY FADED FROM PUBLIC INTEREST BEFORE LONG...

THOSE WHO WILL WANT TO EXPOSE IT JUST BECAUSE THE CATBOX CANNOT BE OPENED WILL SURELY NOT CEASE TO EXIST.
LIKE THIS, THOSE WHO WILL PEEK INTO YOUR GAME WILL NOT DIE OUT COMPLETELY.
BUT IF THROUGH THIS COURSE THERE WILL EMERGE ONE WHO HAS TRULY UNDERSTOOD THE TRUTH OF YOUR HEART...
IN OTHER WORDS, IF WHAT YOU WISHED FOR WILL EVER...

AT LEAST YOU WILL BE ABLE TO REST PEACEFULLY LIKE THIS.
PEACEFULLY, AT THE DEEPEST BOTTOM OF OBLIVION ...
YOU WILL SURELY BE ABLE TO DREAM ETERNALLY.

REST IN PEACE, MY MOST BELOVED WITCH, BEATRICE.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